

Remarks:

Prior to entry of the present amendment, claims 1-28 remained pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Doany (US 5,863,125). Claims 5 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Doany (US 5,863,125). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Nevertheless, in the interest of furthering prosecution, claims 1, 6, 7, 14, 17, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 have been amended, and claims 16, 19, 25 and 27 have been cancelled without prejudice to further prosecution of such claims.

Doany discloses a projector employing a dual-surface reflecting color wheel (300) and a total-internal-reflection prism (440). Contrary to the characterization favored by the present Office action, it is understood that Fig. 6 (of Doany) actually shows a single color wheel having "front and rear wheel reflective surfaces 355, 360 [that] are physically separated and parallel to each other" (see, column 6, lines 15-16). The relationship between the front and rear reflective surfaces is fixed. Correspondingly, the cooperative relationship between the front and rear reflective surfaces is fixed, not selectable.

As amended, claim 1 recites a display device including an illumination source configured to direct light along an optical path, a first color filter having a first number of color regions, and a second color filter having a second number of color regions, wherein "the first and second color filters are configured so as to selectively adjustably cooperate in sequentially filtering the directed light to display an image." Doany does not provide for first and second color filters that are configured so as to selectively adjustably cooperate in sequentially filtering an image. Rather, Doany

provides a single compound filter that is used in a single configuration. Cooperation of the color filters is neither selective nor adjustable.

Based on the foregoing, claim 1 is distinguished from Doany, and the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (based on Doany) must be withdrawn. Claims 2-15 depend from claim 1, and thus are distinguishable from Doany for at least the same reasons as claim 1. The rejection of claims 2-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (based on Doany) thus also must be withdrawn.

Furthermore, claim 6 recites a carriage "configured to selectively position either the first color filter or the second color filter in the optical path." No such carriage is disclosed or suggested by Doany. Claim 7 recites "an optical path director configured to selectively direct the optical path through either the first color filter or the second color filter." No such optical path director is disclosed or suggested by Doany. As noted, Doany provides only for a single predetermined optical path through a static compound filter arrangement. Claims 6 and 7 are distinguishable from Doany for these reasons as well.

Claim 14 recites first and second color wheels "selectively fixable in a specified angular alignment relative to each other" and "rotatable together to sequentially filter the directed light." While Doany discloses a color wheel with first and second reflective surfaces, such surfaces are not selectively fixable relative to one another. Claim 14 is distinguishable for this reason as well.

Claim 17 recites a method of displaying an image that includes providing an illumination source, directing light from the illumination source along an optical path, and sequentially filtering the directed light with at least one of plural cooperative color filters by "selecting a first color filter, fixing a position of a second color filter in a predetermined position in the optical path and moving the first color filter relative to the optical path." Doany does not disclose or suggest such disparate treatment of first and second color filters to achieve a selected cooperative sequential filter arrangement. Claim 17 thus is distinguished from Doany, and the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (based on Doany) must be withdrawn.

Claim 18 recites a method of displaying an image that includes providing an illumination source, directing light from the illumination source along an optical path, and sequentially filtering the directed light with at least one of plural cooperative color filters by "altering the optical path to coincide with a selected one of plural color filters." Doany shows no such alteration of the optical path to select a cooperative sequential filter arrangement. To the contrary, Doany considers only a single compound filter. Claim 18 thus is distinguished from Doany, and the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (based on Doany) must be withdrawn.

Claim 20 recites a sequential color filter system for filtering light directed along an optical path, wherein the sequential color filter system includes a first color wheel having a plurality of color regions, and a second color wheel having a plurality of color regions including at least one white region, each of the first and second color wheels being individually selectable to sequentially filter the light directed along the optical path. Doany does not disclose or suggest first and second color wheels, each of which are individually selectable to sequentially filter light directed along an

optical path. Claim 20 thus is distinguished from Doany, and the rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (based on Doany) must be withdrawn.

Claims 21-24 depend from claim 20, and thus are distinguishable from Doany for at least the same reasons as claim 20. The rejection of claims 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (based on Doany) thus also must be withdrawn.

Furthermore, claim 21 recites a carriage whereby the first color wheel is selectively moved into and out of the optical path, claim 22 recites that the second color wheel is selectively moved into and out of the optical path opposite the first color wheel, and claim 24 recites that the second color wheel is selectively rotationally fixed with the white region in the optical path while the first color wheel rotates to sequentially filter the directed light. Doany does not disclose or suggest a carriage for selectively moving a first color wheel into and out of an optical path (claim 21), does not disclose or suggest opposite movement of first and second color wheels into and out of an optical path (claim 22), and does not disclose or suggest selectively rotationally fixing a second color wheel with a white region in the optical path while a first color wheel sequentially filters light. Claims 21, 22 and 24 thus are distinguished from Doany for these reasons as well.

Claim 26 recites a display device including an illumination source configured to direct light along an optical path, a first sequential color filter means disposed along the optical path, and a second sequential color filter means disposed along the optical path, wherein one of the first sequential color filter means and the second sequential color filter means is "selectable for individual movement through the

optical path to effect adjustable sequential filtering of the directed light to display an image." Doany does not provide for adjustable sequential filtering of light via selection of a sequential color filter means for individual movement within the optical path. Claim 26 thus is distinguished from Doany, and the rejection of claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (based on Doany) must be withdrawn.

Claim 28 recites a sequential color filter system for filtering light directed along an optical path, the sequential color filter system including a first sequential color filter movable within the optical path, and a second sequential color filter movable within the optical path, wherein the first sequential color filter and second sequential color filter each have a plurality of color regions whereby the first sequential color filter and the second sequential color filter are selectively configurable and relatively adjustable to cooperatively filter light directed along the optical path. Doany does not disclose or suggest relative adjustability of first and second sequential color filters. Claim 28 thus is distinguished from Doany, and the rejection of claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (based on Doany) must be withdrawn.

////

////

////

////

////

////

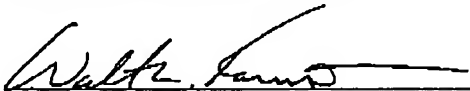
////

////

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the above amendments and remarks. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

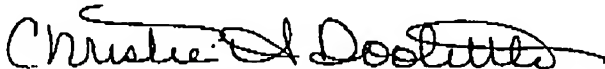
KOLISCH HARTWELL, P.C.



Walter W. Kamstein
Registration No. 35,565
Customer No. 23581
520 S.W. Yamhill Street, Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 224-6655
Facsimile: (503) 295-6679
Attorney for Applicants

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner P. Natnael, Group Art Unit 2614, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on November 16, 2004.



Christie A. Doolittle